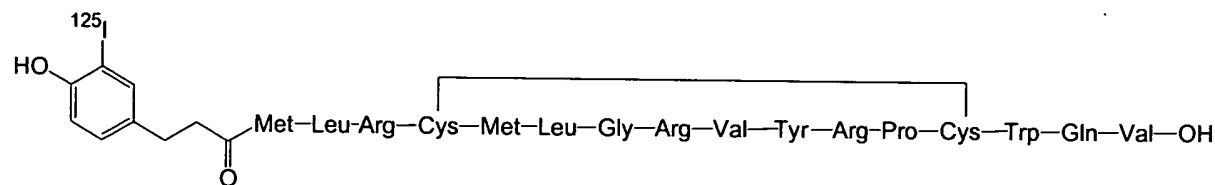


Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

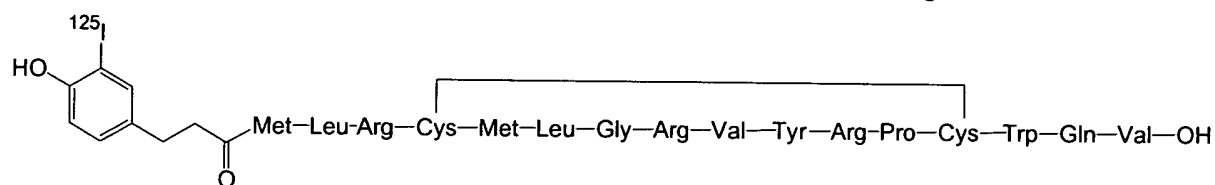
Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for screening a compound or its salt that alters the binding property between $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ a ~~melanin concentrating hormone (MCH) or its salt~~ and SLC-1 or its salt, which comprises:
measuring the amount of the $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ bound to the SLC-1, (i) when the $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ is brought into contact with the SLC-1 or a salt thereof, and (ii) when a test compound and the $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ are brought into contact with the SLC-1 or a salt thereof; and
comparing (i) and (ii) using the MCH or its derivative, or a salt thereof and the SLC-1 or its salt.
2. (Currently Amended) A kit for screening a compound or its salt that alters the binding property between $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ ~~MCH or its salt~~ and SLC-1 or its salt, which comprises $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ and a buffer comprising the MCH or its derivative, or a salt thereof and the SLC-1 or its salt.
- 3-11. (Cancelled).
12. (Currently Amended) $[^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl})\text{propionyl})\text{-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ which is A compound represented by the following formula:



or its salt.

13. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the $[\text{}^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl)propionyl)-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ is represented by the following formula:



14. (New) The kit according to claim 2, wherein the $[\text{}^{125}\text{I}][\text{N}-(3-(4\text{-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl)propionyl)-met}^4]\text{-MCH}(4\text{-}19)$ is represented by the following formula:

